

Abstract 366

TITLE: Summary of Monitoring Activities and Intervention Strategies: Counseling Pregnant Women with Unknown HIV Status

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ISSUE: New York State leads the nation in the number of reported pediatric AIDS cases. Therefore, the reduction of perinatal transmission is a high New York State Department of Health priority. The Department's strategy for reducing perinatal HIV transmission and ensuring that HIV- positive women and their exposed infants have access to care and services is comprehensive. The centerpiece of the strategy is a regulatory requirement that all women in prenatal care in regulated facilities receive HIV counseling with testing presented as a clinical recommendation.

SETTING: Since August 1995, the Department's peer review organization *IPRO*, has collected performance data for prenatal HIV counseling and testing gathered in chart reviews at regulated facilities across the State.

PROJECT: In June 1998, the New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute began using this data to (1) monitor facility compliance with the regulation mandating "HIV counseling and voluntary testing of pregnant women"; (2) notify each reviewed facility of its performance rate for the indicator, "Counseling Pregnant Women with Unknown HIV Status"; and (3) describe the Department's plans to implement intervention strategies to insure that regulated facilities comply with this requirement.

RESULTS: This poster session will provide a statewide and regional summary of the prenatal HIV counseling and testing data (1995 through 1998) and will describe the New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute's monitoring protocol and intervention process for this requirement.

LESSONS LEARNED: Three health care settings (one community health center, one hospital, and one designated AIDS center) that have reversed previous poor performance rates in counseling pregnant women with unknown HIV status will be highlighted. The barriers to compliance that they have identified, as well as the quality improvement strategies they have adopted to improve and sustain compliance will be described.

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